

CONGRESSMAN HENRY A. WAXMAN NEWS

2444 RAYBURN H.O.B 8425 WEST 3rd STREET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 90048 202-225-3976 213-651-1040

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Howard Elinson (213) 651-1040

August 5, 1981

WAXMAN SAVES CALIFORNIA \$1.1 BILLION

In intense negotiations between Senate and House conference committee members, Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Los Angeles) succeeded in crushing a proposal that would have cost Californians well over a billion dollars during the next three years.

The proposal, included in the Senate version of the budget and backed by

President Reagan provided for annual reductions in federal Medi-Cal support of

\$369 million. Had Waxman failed to thwart this provision, California would have

lost three times more than any other state in the Union.

State Controller Kenneth Cory credited Waxman's "blunt and forceful advocacy and resistance for beating back the United States Senate and Reagan Administration proposals."

Waxman, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment and former Chairman of the California State Assembly Health Committee had vowed months ago that he would battle the Reagan Administration for every last dollar of health care financing. Nevertheless, few Washington observers believed Waxman would succeed in the current atmosphere of massive budget reductions.

Commenting on his budget victory Waxman said,

"To me this means a lot more than additional numbers on the credit side of California's ledgers. The \$1.1 billion dollars we were able to save will help us bring quality health care to the three million low income individuals and families whose lives and well-being depend on the Medi-Cal program.

* * * * * *